

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

We, Eric A. Reiners and Steven T. Ufheil, declare that we are citizens of the United States of America, residing respectively at Washington, Illinois and East Peoria, Illinois, and that we believe we are the original, first, and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**INDEPENDENT METERING VALVE ASSEMBLY FOR MULTIPLE HYDRAULIC LOAD FUNCTIONS**

the specification of which is attached hereto.

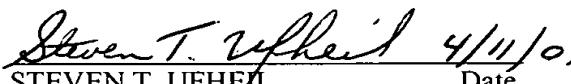
We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to be material to patentability as defined in §1.56. We further declare that no application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention has been filed in any country foreign to the United States of America prior to this application by us or our legal representatives or assigns.

We hereby appoint Robert J. Hampsch, Patent Office Reg. No. 36,155, telephone (309) 675-5214, J. Wesley Blumenshine, Patent Office Reg. No. 32,399, telephone (309) 675-5537, J. W. Keen, Patent Office Reg. No. 28,432, telephone (309) 675-5753, and Dennis C. Skarvan, Patent Office Reg. No. 35,360, telephone (309) 675-6060, and Todd T. Taylor, Patent Office Reg. No. 43487, telephone (425) 827-8600, our attorneys and/or agents, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected with this application. Please address all correspondence to: Todd T. Taylor, Taylor & Aust, P.C., 142 South Main Street, Avilla, Indiana 46710.

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

 4/6/01  
ERIC A. REINERS Date  
Post Office Address:  
1029 Hillcrest Dr.  
Washington, Illinois 61571

 4/11/01  
STEVEN T. UFHEIL Date  
Post Office Address:  
314 E. White Oak Ct.  
East Peoria, Illinois 61611